

Important Misawa Housing Information

Fact Sheet

We have over 2,000 family housing (FH) units on Misawa AB. There is currently no waiting period for on-base housing. During high PCS season, your stay in the Temporary Lodging Facility (TLF) could be up to 30 days depending on the type of housing required, member's rank, and bedroom entitlement.

We understand your first concern is where you will live. **All newly assigned military members are required to live on-base.** A major decision for many is whether to bring your pets with you or leave them in the states. Since many FH units do not allow pets, members should not bring pets to Misawa until they have secured pet-friendly housing. Additionally, Misawa is undergoing a renovation program to bring all FH units and related infrastructure up to modern standards. During this time, the number of pet-friendly units will be limited.

Upon your arrival at Misawa, you will be offered up to two housing units, if available, that meet your authorized category of house. This will be determined IAW AFI 32-6001. If you turn down your first offer, you will be offered a 2nd FH unit; however, your Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA) will be stopped on the date that house would have been available. At that time your Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) will be the only entitlement you will receive. You will not be entitled to receive Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) if you were receiving it from your previous assignment. The Joint Federal Travel Regulation does not authorize BAH once TLA is stopped.

If you choose to wait for a personal housing preference (to include, but not limited to, pet friendly, style, size, location, or age) you will incur out-of-pocket expenses to retain lodging. It is also recommended that you call lodging prior to your permanent change-of-station (PCS) move to Misawa to ensure you can financially afford the out-of-pocket expense and to inquire if lodging can accommodate your stay while you await your housing preference. If you cannot afford the added expense, and non-pet housing is the only unit available, you may be required to accept it and make alternate arrangements for your pets for the duration of your tour.

Although military members do not have an option of living off-base, civilians are still authorized to live off-base unless they are identified as key and essential. Living in Japan is different from continental U.S. (CONUS) areas. You can expect to live in smaller units, drive on congested/narrow streets, have limited parking, and use smaller appliances.

Lodging facilities do not allow pets in their rooms. Guests with pets will be required to seek a pet boarding facility. Pet boarding fees are high in Japan and can be overwhelming for families if on-base housing that allows pets is not immediately available. Each family must make an informed decision and should contact their sponsor to provide them with additional information on quarantine fees for pets at the airport, pet boarding cost, out-of-pocket lodging costs etc.

These rules are also applicable to a military member married to another military member and both are assigned to Misawa AB, members arriving to Misawa from a remote tour, and members changing to an accompanied tour.

Email questions to housing@misawa.af.mil or call DSN (315) 226-3200.

(Current as of March 2011)